

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are all the claims pending in the application. That is, by this amendment, claims 23-29 have been canceled. Moreover, claims 4, 10, 14, 17 and 18 are now independent claims. Therefore, claims 1, 4, 10, 14, 17 and 18 are now independent claims. As an initial matter, the recitation that the laundry machine is a front loading washing machine as been eliminated from the independent claims. Applicant respectfully submits that the patentability of the claims is not altered by this amendment.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4-10, 14, 15, 17-20 and 27 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant thanks the Examiner for this indication.

Claim 1

As an initial matter, claim 1 has been amended to include all of the recitations of dependent claim 11 and 18 and *most* of the recitations of dependent claim 17. Specifically, amended claim 1 recites that the lid is movably mounted --relative to said casing--, instead of being movable mounted “between said movable body and said casing” (from original claim 17). However, Applicant respectfully submits that even with this difference, amended claim 1 should be allowable subject matter.

Claim 4

Allowable claim 4 has been re-written in independent form including all of the recitations of the base claim 1 and the addition of the recitation of claim 5 that -- said actuating means comprise at least a conduit for carrying said flow of liquid and a channel of said movable body

operatively coupled to said conduit--. Accordingly, independent claim 4 includes subject matter that was indicated as being allowable by the Examiner.

Claim 10

Allowable claim 10 has been re-written in independent form including all of the recitations of the base claim 1. Accordingly, independent claim 10 includes subject matter that was indicated as being allowable by the Examiner.

Claim 14

Allowable claim 14 has been re-written in independent form including all of the recitations of the base claim 1 and intervening claim 11. Accordingly, independent claim 14 includes subject matter that was indicated as being allowable by the Examiner.

Claim 17

Allowable claim 17 has been re-written in independent form including all of the recitations of the base claim 1 and intervening claim 11. Accordingly, independent claim 17 includes subject matter that was indicated as being allowable by the Examiner.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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